



Farmland Conservation Easement Commission Minutes

Jefferson County Courthouse

311 S Center Ave, Rm 203

Jefferson, WI 53549

Monday, October 13, 2014

Members: Margaret Burlingham (Chair), Walt Christensen (Vice Chair), Steve Nass (Secretary), Mariah Hadler, and Blane Poulson.

1. Call to Order:

The monthly meeting was called to order by Margaret Burlingham at 12:31 pm. Committee members Margaret Burlingham (Chair), Walt Christensen (Vice Chair), Steve Nass (Secretary), Mariah Hadler, and Blane Poulson were present. Also in attendance were Gerry Kokkonen, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); Kim Liakopoulos, LWCD; and Michelle Staff, Planning & Zoning Department.

2. Roll Call (Establish a Quorum):

A quorum was established.

3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law:

It was determined that the committee was in compliance with the Open Meetings Law.

4. Review of the October Agenda:

The October agenda was reviewed by the committee members. No changes were proposed.

5. Public Comment:

There were no comments at this time.

6. Communications:

There were no communications at this time.

7. Review & Approval of the September 8, 2014 Meeting Minutes:

Margaret Burlingham made an amendment to item # 10 of the September 8, 2014 minutes. She stated that the hanger isn't an ultra-light hanger, just a hanger. Walt Christensen made a motion to approve the September 8, 2014 meeting minutes as amended, Mariah Handler seconded. Motion carried 5/0.

8. Discussion and possible action on PACE applications:

a. Greg Wilke, Town of Waterloo

Margaret Burlingham spoke to Nancy Lannert (LWCD) in regard to the Wilke Farm, found they're almost finished, therefore almost in compliance. The committee decided to put the Wilke Farm on the list for the appraiser since they're almost 30 days out.

b. Cliff Haberman, Town of Milford

Margaret Burlingham informed the committee that the Haberman Farm hasn't had its hazard inspection yet and Cliff Haberman isn't sure if he's going to include the buildings or not. Margaret Burlingham recommended Cliff Haberman speak to Ron Howard from NRCS for further information.

c. Gary & Mary Ann Kunz Trust, Town of Sumner

Margaret Burlingham notified the committee that this application is on hold pending budget.

d. Duane Koch, Town of Farmington

Margaret Burlingham notified the committee that this application is on hold pending budget.

e. Stewart & Carol Calkins, Town of Palmyra

Margaret Burlingham talked about the possibility of a Calkins Farm Easement but they are concerned whether or not an easement will stop annexation. Margaret Burlingham recommended the family contact their lawyer in regard to their annexation question.

f. Timothy Hunn, Town of Aztalan

Margaret Burlingham sent Tim Hunn another easement packet and he's still interested.

9. Jefferson County Land & Water Conservation Report on Baseline Documentation for Easements:

Gerry Kokkonen visited Haberman's Farm. He took photos and GPS points to start the baseline documents and they will be complete once the easement language is accepted.

10. Discussion on Jefferson County Board support for funding the PACE program in regards to Rock County Board action to fund their PACE program:

Margaret Burlingham attended the Rock County Board meeting on 9/30/14. They showed a presentation and spoke about a resolution in regard to PACE. See attached.

11. Discussion on future events that the Farmland Conservation Easement Commission would like to participate in and Community Outreach:

Mariah Hadler and Walt Christensen attended the Lake Mills Fall Festival to represent the Commission. Both Mariah and Walt said that the event was well attended with many people stopping to watch the apple demonstration and then took Commission paperwork.

12. Future Meeting:

November 10, 2014 at 12:30 pm in Room 203.

13. Suggestions for the Next Agenda:

Attending the Winter Farmers Market in Fort Atkinson, getting an article in the Farm Bureau Newsletter, and contacting Phil Ristow in regard to presenting our program to the County Bar Association.

14. Adjournment:

Steve Nass made a motion to adjourn at 1:15 pm, Walt Christensen seconded. Motion carried 5/0.